

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of September 8, 2008 issued with respect the present RCE application, the Applicant submits the following Remarks.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections and Response to Arguments

The Examiner states that the new ground of rejection is "based on new citations in the previous cited prior art", where these "new citations" are element "226" of Coiner as the claimed "printhead hoses" and element "350[sic]" of Coiner as the claimed "reservoir hoses", as depicted in Fig. 23 of Coiner, and the disclosure at col. 5, lines 39-61 of Coiner as disclosing the claimed "self-sealing disconnect coupling".

However, the Applicant maintains that even with this new interpretation of Coiner, the subject matter of pending independent claim 1, and claims 5, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21-31, 37-42, 44, 45 and 47-49 dependent therefrom, is still not taught or suggested by Coiner either taken alone or in combination of the other previous cited art.

This is because, elements "226" and "350" of Coiner are not disconnectedly coupled to one another as is required of the printhead and reservoir hoses of the claimed invention. Rather, as disclosed at col. 7, line 53-col. 8, line 24 and clearly illustrated in Fig. 23 of Coiner, the metal bands 352 hold the connection of the elements 226 and 350 to the tube 130 tightly.

Further, the disclosure at col. 5, lines 39-61 of Coiner clearly discloses that the valve structure 120 (being equivalent to element "226" - please compare Figs. 6-8 with Fig. 23 of Coiner) is removably engaged with the self-sealing refill port 114,116 of the cartridge 100. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art understands that the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 23 of Coiner is removably engaged with the self-sealing refill port 114,116 of the cartridge 100 at the element "226" which is otherwise tightly held in connection to the element "350".

Thus, even with the Examiner's new interpretation of Coiner, one of ordinary skill in the art understands (in terms of the language used in the claimed invention) the disclosed arrangement of Coiner is to have tightly interconnected "printhead hoses" and "reservoir

hoses" that are together removably engaged with a "self-sealing disconnect coupling", which is contrary to the claimed invention.


It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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